

## THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS EXECUTIVE SEMINAR

October 3, 1975

MEMORANDUM

To: Director of Training

STATINTL

From: [REDACTED]

1. I believe that the Foreign Affairs Executive Seminar (FAES) should continue -- essentially in its present form.

2. The FAES can continue effectively only with full State Department participation. The State Department has been completely cooperative in furnishing speakers for the plenary sessions and for the regional seminars. It has failed to enroll enough qualified participants in the course.

There should be approximately five State participants in each course -- one for each of the five regional seminars. The State officers should be knowledgeable and experienced and from the ranks of FSO-2 through FSO-4.

Beginning in January, 1972, the FAES has had 23 runnings.

<u>Graduates</u>	1,158
State	128
AID	130
CIA	150
USIA	183
DOD	546
Other Agencies	21

THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS EXECUTIVE SEMINAR

The Foreign Affairs Executive Seminar was established January 6, 1972, when Under Secretary of State John N. Irwin II, as Chairman of the Under Secretaries' Committee of the National Security Council, formally announced its creation. The first session began four days later. The FAES succeeded the National Interdepartmental Seminar whose focus was on counterinsurgency; by 1972 it was clear this was no longer a major U.S. policy concern. The FAES, as a result of a reassessment of the trend in international developments, shifted its emphasis to the formulation, coordination and execution of U.S. foreign and national security policy. In addition, special attention has been given to domestic factors affecting U.S. foreign policy, problems of modernization and development, and certain critical international issues as food, energy, and population.

The FAES has been unique as a short-term (3 weeks) interdepartmental forum for senior-level officers of the five sponsoring agencies (State, Defense, AID, CIA, USIA). Other departments (8) have also enrolled a few participants in the program. The FAES was placed within the Foreign Service Institute but has been staffed and funded by the five sponsors.

In carrying out its efforts the principal techniques employed have been plenary sessions in which recognized authorities have provided their views on current problems or trends related to foreign or national security affairs, critical international issues, and domestic trends. In the plenary sessions extensive discussion and exchange takes place between the speaker and the participants. The speakers have come from government, the universities, labor, business, the press, and private associations. In addition, smaller regional seminars have been organized which focus on U.S. objectives in each of these regions, on the issues currently affecting the region, and on U.S. relations in that area. Most of the regional sessions are informal, with a great deal of discussion, and again, the speakers have come from many different agencies or institutions. Field trips are taken to government agencies and to the Congress.

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Over the nearly four years of its existence the FAES has been enthusiastically received and endorsed by more than 1,100 graduates. The Seminar attempts constantly to remain current in the issues and trends which it examines and has been highly successful in involving its participants directly and fully in its activities. Those who have graduated from the Seminar have attested to its value, whether in direct or indirect terms, in enabling the participants more effectively to carry out their responsibilities as government officers.



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GRADUATES

AGENCIES	FY 72	FY 73	FY 74	FY 75	2 Sessions FY 76
STATE	24	43	30	21	10
AID	24	34	30	41	1
CIA	13	37	37	51	12
USIA	23	40	48	52	20
ARMY	31	73	59	49	17
AIR FORCE	16	57	55	43	16
NAVY/USMC	13	28	37	26	7
JCS	2	3	5	3	6
AGRICULTURE	1	4	0	0	0
TREASURY	0	1	0	0	0
HEW	0	3	1	0	0
EXPORT/IMPORT BANK	1	0	0	1	1
ACDA	0	1	0	0	0
GAO	0	1	2	0	0
HUD	0	1	0	0	0
COMMERCE	0	0	1	2	0
	<u>148</u>	<u>326</u>	<u>305</u>	<u>289</u>	<u>90</u>

TOTAL GRADUATES ..... 1158

October 2, 1975



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

BPD Meeting No. 3  
September 18, 1975

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Record of Action

The following decisions have been made by the Deputy Under Secretary for Management in the light of the discussion at the BPD meeting on September 18:

3. Steps will be taken to end State Department participation in the Foreign Affairs Executive Seminar and to abolish it. The Director of FSI is to so advise the appropriate offices and other four participating agencies. The Director is requested to investigate and report on a possible alternative interagency foreign affairs course which might usefully be developed and given at FSI.